States Cotton Futures Act; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry

By Ms. KLOBUCHAR (for herself and Mr. Franken):

S. 2985. A bill to designate a segment of Interstate Route 35 in the State of Minnesota as the "James L. Oberstar Memorial Highway"; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

By Mr. Schatz:

S. 2986. A bill to require the Secretary of the Interior to assemble a team of technical, policy, and financial experts to address the energy needs of the insular areas of the United States and the Freely Associated States through the development of energy action plans aimed at promoting access to affordable, reliable energy, including increasing use of indigenous clean-energy resources, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

SUBMISSION OF CONCURRENT AND SENATE RESOLUTIONS

The following concurrent resolutions and Senate resolutions were read, and referred (or acted upon), as indicated:

By Ms. MIKULSKI (for herself and Mr. KIRK):

S. Res. 594. A resolution celebrating the centennial year of the birth of Jan Karski and honoring his extraordinary and courageous life; considered and agreed to.

ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 313

At the request of Mr. CASEY, the name of the Senator from Ohio (Mr. PORTMAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 313, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide for the tax treatment of ABLE accounts established under State programs for the care of family members with disabilities, and for other purposes.

S. 1463

At the request of Mrs. Boxer, the names of the Senator from Missouri (Mrs. McCaskill) and the Senator from Maryland (Mr. Cardin) were added as cosponsors of S. 1463, a bill to amend the Lacey Act Amendments of 1981 to prohibit importation, exportation, transportation, sale, receipt, acquisition, and purchase in interstate or foreign commerce, or in a manner substantially affecting interstate or foreign commerce, of any live animal of any prohibited wildlife species.

S. 1739

At the request of Mr. Hoeven, the name of the Senator from Wisconsin (Ms. Baldwin) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1739, a bill to modify the efficiency standards for grid-enabled water heaters.

S. 2348

At the request of Mr. Brown, the name of the Senator from Massachusetts (Mr. Markey) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2348, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to waive coinsurance under Medicare for colorectal cancer screening tests, regardless of whether therapeutic intervention is required during the screening.

S. 2523

At the request of Ms. Klobuchar, the name of the Senator from Minnesota (Mr. Franken) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2523, a bill to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 14 3rd Avenue, NW., in Chisholm, Minnesota, as the "James L. Oberstar Memorial Post Office Building".

S. 2609

At the request of Mr. ENZI, the name of the Senator from Hawaii (Ms. HIRONO) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2609, a bill to restore States' sovereign rights to enforce State and local sales and use tax laws, and for other purposes.

S. 2723

At the request of Mr. Franken, the name of the Senator from Massachusetts (Ms. Warren) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2723, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to qualify homeless youth and veterans who are full-time students for purposes of the low income housing tax credit.

S. 2789

At the request of Mr. Harkin, the name of the Senator from Wisconsin (Ms. Baldwin) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2789, a bill to amend part B of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act to provide full Federal funding of such part.

S. 2816

At the request of Mr. Booker, the name of the Senator from Minnesota (Mr. Franken) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2816, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to eliminate the specific exemption for professional football leagues and to provide a special rule for other professional sports leagues, and to provide an additional authorization of appropriations for the Family Violence Prevention and Services Act.

S. 2909

At the request of Mr. Casey, the name of the Senator from New Mexico (Mr. Heinrich) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2909, a bill to authorize a comprehensive strategic approach for United States foreign assistance to developing countries to end extreme global poverty and hunger, achieve food and nutrition security, promote endurable, long-term, agricultural-led economic growth, improve nutritional outcomes, especially for women and children, build resilient, adaptive, local capacity of vulnerable populations, and for other related purposes.

S. 2953

At the request of Mr. Rubio, the name of the Senator from Wisconsin (Mr. Johnson) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2953, a bill to prohibit an alien who is a national of a country with a widespread Ebola virus outbreak from obtaining a visa and for other purposes.

S. 2963

At the request of Mrs. BOXER, the name of the Senator from Oregon (Mr. WYDEN) was added as a cosponsor of S.

2963, a bill to remove a limitation on a prohibition relating to permits for discharges incidental to normal operation of vessels.

S. RES. 578

At the request of Mr. MENENDEZ, the names of the Senator from Ohio (Mr. Brown) and the Senator from New Mexico (Mr. UDALL) were added as cosponsors of S. Res. 578, a resolution supporting the role of the United States in ensuring children in the world's poorest countries have access to vaccines and immunization through Gavi, the Vaccine Alliance.

AMENDMENT NO. 3588

At the request of Mr. Tester, the names of the Senator from Ohio (Mr. Brown), the Senator from West Virginia (Mr. Manchin) and the Senator from Delaware (Mr. Coons) were added as cosponsors of amendment No. 3588 intended to be proposed to S. 2410, an original bill to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2015 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes.

STATEMENTS ON INTRODUCED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

By Ms. COLLINS (for herself and Ms. Klobuchar):

S. 2976. A bill to amend the Commodity Exchange Act and the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 to specify how clearing requirements apply to certain affiliate transactions, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

Ms. COLLINS. Mr. President, today Senator Klobuchar and I are introducing legislation to clarify that commercial companies that execute swaps to manage their business risk through "centralized treasury units" are entitled to the end-user clearing exemption provided by Congress as part of the Dodd-Frank Act.

The Dodd-Frank Act requires financial entities to clear and trade their derivatives contracts on regulated exchanges. The point of this reform is to cut down on the systemic risk posed by financial speculators who invest in volatile derivatives contracts. It was not intended to restrict the ability of non-financial "end-users" to hedge commercial risks that are part of their normal business operations. For that reason, the Dodd-Frank Act provided end-users with an exemption from the act's clearing requirements.

Many non-financial end-users use subsidiaries called "centralized treasury units" to manage their derivatives contracts. These centralized treasury units allow corporations to consolidate their hedging expertise in one subsidiary. Unfortunately, because these subsidiaries are not technically "endusers" themselves, the end-user exemption provided by Dodd-Frank does not